

door and knocks on the door and the individual identifies himself, I'm Mr. Smith and I am from the EPA, the Agency that gets a 4.7-percent increase in this bill. If you are that individual who owns that business, is your first response, oh, joy, one of my government's servants is about here to help me today.

That is what this debate is about, and 2 hours debate on the most fundamental question that the United States Congress deals with, how we spend taxpayer dollars, is not too much debate.

We should debate this long and hard and we should support the amendment of the gentlewoman from Colorado. It simply slows down the rate of government growth, slows down that government that Jefferson warned us about in his statement. I certainly support the gentlelady's amendment, and thank her for bringing it forward.

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to give my friend from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) 2 minutes.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, as a Member of Congress who supports the protection of our national parks and as an individual from the very crowded State of New Jersey who is seeking to make sure that we preserve the open space of this country as best we can, I rise in support of the gentlelady from Colorado's amendment which would increase spending on these worthwhile causes by 4 percent.

You know, the American public who watches this debate right now might wonder sometimes, do we have a schizophrenic state of mind by the majority party in control today? Out of their mouths come one thing now and something else later on. What is white is black, what is day is night. One moment we are railing against and saying spending, spending, spending is the problem and it's been the problem of the Republican Party for years and years and it still is their problem. Just a moment later, we hear that spending is not the problem from the other side. The problem all these years has been cuts, cuts, cuts. The problem that we have now is that we've been cutting too much in the past. Which is it?

The American public must do as I do sometimes when they hear the debate from the other side of the aisle and scratch their head. Which are the facts that they want to go by today? Is it the problem that we've been spending too much, as the other side of the aisle says? Or is the problem, as the gentleman just recently said, that we were cutting too much?

I would argue that the problem has been that we've been spending too much of the taxpayers' dollars in an unaccountable manner. And the budget that has come before us would give the American taxpayer the largest tax increase in U.S. history.

The amendment from the gentlelady from Colorado would try to do things

on an even and moderate manner. It would still increase spending by 4 percent so that all the worthwhile programs in the bill that's before us would be able to be continued to be fully funded at the necessary levels. But at the same time, the gentlelady from Colorado takes in mind the efforts of the American taxpayers to make sure that we will not have the largest tax increase in American history on that family.

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Chairman, I would ask the committee chairman if he has any more speakers.

Mr. DICKS. I may have one more speaker. I think I have the right to close, don't I?

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. McGovern). The gentleman from Washington has the right to close.

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining for both sides.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman has 6½ minutes remaining and the gentleman from Washington has 13 minutes remaining.

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to yield 3½ minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CAMPBELL).

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. I thank the gentlelady from Colorado.

You know, we have heard a lot today from the majority party whenever we talk about this amendment, this bill, this spending, they want to bring up last year's bills, last year's spending. We acknowledge, last year's spending was too much. Last year's bills were too much. That's not what we're talking about. It's like the baseball team wanting to play last year's season again. Look what we did last year. Look what happened last year. No, we're in the middle of this year. We're in the middle of this season. It doesn't matter who won the World Series last year. It matters who's in first place this year. What matters is this year. How much are we going to spend this year? That's what we're voting on. How much are we going to increase the deficit this year? How much further are we going to raid the Social Security surplus this year? That's the question before us. And we think we ought to have the deficit increase a little less and that we should raid the Social Security surplus a little less and that we shouldn't set up a situation where you're going to raise taxes on all of the American people.

The previous amendment, I showed a couple of charts. The previous amendment was to reduce spending by 1 percent. I tried to point out to the majority that it's like this. Here are 100 donkeys, something they can understand. If we reduce that by 1 percent, we have 99 donkeys. Not that big a difference in donkeys. And so we proposed an amendment last time, which the majority party defeated on voice vote, will undoubtedly defeat later, that

said, let's just get by on 99 donkeys, money, instead of 100 donkeys, money. Well, they said they couldn't do it.

So the gentlelady from Colorado offers an alternative, which is get by on 99½ donkeys. If I had a half donkey, I would stick it up there. You can pick whichever end of the donkey you want, but put another half a donkey on that chart. And so we're saying rather than 100 donkeys, get by with 99½. It's just saying if you have a million-dollar program, we said, well, get by on 999,000. They're saying, no. Okay. How about \$999,500? If you have a \$100 million program, we're saying can you get by on \$99 million. They said, no. We're saying, okay, how about \$99½ million.

That's what this argument is about. Just asking for a half a percent, each government agency, each government program to deal with a half a percent less. People at home make these kinds of decisions with way bigger percentages than that all the time, Mr. Chairman. And if we do it, if we reduce it by 1 percent, we would save \$30 billion if we did every program every year. If it's a half a percent, it's still \$15 billion. That is real money, Mr. Chairman. Real money no matter how you cut it. And that is the way we can balance this budget without raising taxes.

There, Mr. Chairman, is the big difference between the majority Democratic Party and the Republican Party. We're saying, get by on 99 donkeys or 99½ donkeys instead of 100. Tell government bureaucrats that we can balance this budget without raising taxes. They, however, want to give the bureaucrats 100 donkeys of spending every time and raise taxes on the American people to make up the difference. That's what we're talking about here. That's the difference in this debate. That's the difference between these parties.

Mr. Chairman, I would urge all Members to vote to make government bureaucrats deal with a tiny bit less and let people save and keep their own money.

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Chairman, how much time is left?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Colorado has 3 minutes remaining and the gentleman from Washington State has 13 minutes remaining.

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TIAHRT. I yield to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT).

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I come in support of my friend from Colorado's amendment that would reduce this by one-half of 1 percent below the spending levels of last year.

Over the last 6 months, the new majority has passed or paved the way for \$103.5 billion of increased spending. I